



# SPECIAL DELIVERY

THE MEALS ON WHEELS DELAWARE NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2023

## Introducing our 2023 Board

As we transitioned from 2022 to 2023 at Meals On Wheels Delaware we celebrated the contributions of many of our long term Board Members who reached the 9 year term limit. Thank you to outgoing Chair Michael Clement who successfully led the organization through the uncertainties of the Covid years. Thanks to his 25 Year Challenge, to mark our 25 year anniversary, funds for programs doubled in 2022-2023. We also wish to thank Tom Coons, Jane Goldberg, Carol Hunter and Noreen Poole for their contributions to the Board, we know they will remain engaged in other ways.



The 2023 board pictured Left to Right Vaughn Hardin, Kimberly Fonda, Lyndon Yearick, Pamela Scott, Dan Dugan, Ben Muse, Nicole Bailey Ashton, Pat Schulze, Dale Cochran, Lanette Taylor-Sherman, Caitlin Custer, Elizabeth Kipp-Stonebraker, Debbie Smith  
Not Pictured: Scott Baylis, Maria Fraser, Devashish Guha, Tom Hannum, John McMahon

We would like to introduce you to our new Board Chair, Nicole Bailey Ashton. After serving on the Board for the last 6 years, and serving on the Beach Brunch Committee along with filling the role of a volunteer for Lewes Rehoboth Meals on Wheels, it was obvious to everyone that Nicole would and should be our next Chair. She brings to the table a new energy and excitement, and should you attend any one of our events, you will see her as she navigates the attendees with her welcome smile.

**“I** started volunteering for Meals on Wheels in Sussex County 10 years ago. When I first got involved, it was through the Beach Brunch committee. Over the years I took on more of a role as the liaison between the Meals On Wheels Lewes Rehoboth and then serving on the board for Meals on Wheels Delaware. I am a fill-in driver for the Meals On Wheels Lewes Rehoboth team, and I love being able to get out, meet the people we are helping, and interact with them in a meaningful way. Some of them have such great stories to share and they are all so thankful when they see you at their door. I was glad to be able to deliver right before Christmas and also take cards and cookies that were made for each of the participants.

**–Nicole Bailey Ashton**

The 2023 Leadership team is rounded out with: Vice Chairs Scott Baylis and Lyndon Yearick, Treasurer Kimberly Fonda, and Secretary Elizabeth Kipp-Stonebraker. We will feature these officers in future issues and get to know their story about Meals on Wheels Delaware!



**MEALS ON WHEELS DELAWARE**

100 W. 10th Street, Suite 207, Wilmington, DE 19801

[MealsOnWheelsDE.org](http://MealsOnWheelsDE.org)

# 2022 Support



It's a new year, and while we are excited for all that 2023 may bring, we couldn't have gotten here without the hard work and efforts from last year. In 2022, we celebrated the 25-year Anniversary of supporting Meals On Wheels in Delaware all year-round while hosting five major in-person fundraisers. We grew our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter followers while we also expanded our LinkedIn page.

  
**Anniversary for  
Meals on Wheels DE**

**5**  
**Signature Events  
State-wide**

**1750**  
**Attendees  
for Events**

**61**  
**Committee  
Volunteers**

 **4.9 K**  **1.9 K**  
 **1.6 K**  **190**

**Thanks to hundreds of Community Supporters! (Chefs, Beverages, Auction Donors, Sponsors)**



In 2022, normal life resumed for many seniors who chose to remain safer at home in 2020 and 2021. Many returned to in-person dining and socializing at senior centers, which led to a small decrease in home-delivered meals from 2021 (an all-time high) to 2022. **In 2022, 824,309 meals were delivered to 6206 seniors.**

**Last year, the 25th Anniversary Commemoration of the program led to a doubling of funds for home-delivered meals through 2023.** This was timely, as volunteer drivers faced rising gas prices. Over 1,000 volunteers received thanks in gas cards or other recognition, to help with costs.

Programs were able to deliver meals, replace aging vehicles, repair and replace commercial kitchen equipment, invest in technology to improve the efficiency of meal delivery and the volunteer experience. Delivery supplies are always needed as they are used daily.

Thank you to everyone who gave in 2022 to ensure that 2023 will be another year with zero waiting list for Meals On Wheels in Delaware.



# 2022 Recap



**The Cellar Master's Wine Auction and Dinner** returned to the Chase Center with personalized seating for the comfort of all guests. Our 2022 raise a paddle appeal raised the most yet! There were rave reviews for the visiting chefs who orchestrated the perfect 4 course meal for our guests. The exclusive wine and both live and silent auction exceeded goals once again.



**The Celebrity Chefs' Brunch** in late April spotlighted the 25th Anniversary Celebration with a commemoration of highlights through the years. Board Chair, Mike Clement, announced that the 25th Anniversary Campaign allowed for the funding available for Meals On Wheels programs to be twice the annual amount in the coming year.

Congratulations were received in a joint resolution from the House and Senate and many elected officials. Bidding in the auction was fierce for the great selection of items put together by the Auction Committee.

Over 800 guests enjoyed brunch bites from 20 local and nationally recognized chef at the DuPont Country Club in Wilmington, DE.



**Grilling & Chilling**, a relaxed rebrand of Sip & Savor following the disruption of the Covid-19 pandemic, was held at Maple Dale Country Club in September. Over 150 guests enjoyed BBQ and Blues in the Maple Dale dining room. Online raffle tickets for a 4 digit license plate far exceeded any amount the organization had ever sold!



**Beach Brunch:** For the first time, Grain On The Rocks next to the Lewes Ferry Terminal hosted. While the October morning was crisp for guests at the indoor/outdoor event the view was breathtaking! Individual courses were prepared, with a special nod to Maria Fraser, Board Member and owner of Café on 26! The Silent and Live auction was well received with many items going far beyond value.



**Ultimate Tailgate** – Once again celebrated tailgating at the outdoor grove of Delaware Park. Brewer for a Day with Wilmington Brew Works helping to raise funds in our live auction – and did we ever! Thanks to Cassidy Painting for your winning bid to brew your own beer! Chef's prepared great nibbles for guests with Buckley's Tavern in Centerville voted best nibble and Hamilton's on Main best decorated station, and finally White Horse Winery wines best sip!

VISIT: [MealsOnWheelsDE.org](https://MealsOnWheelsDE.org) CALL: 302-656-3257 SOCIAL: Meals On Wheels Delaware MealsOnWheelsDE

## Together we can end senior hunger.